

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace the claims with the following listing of claims:

1 – 30 (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) Culture medium conditioned by cytokines and soluble factors released by immortalized untransformed hepatocytes that are differentiated, polarized epithelial cells; said medium being characterized in that it is free from conditioning cells, when used, permitting the maintenance, proliferation and differentiation of adult mammalian cells.

32. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 wherein said hepatocytes are murine MMH cells.

33. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 wherein said MMH cells are genetically modified.

34. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 wherein said cultured mammalian cells are cord-blood stem cells.

35. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 wherein said cultured mammalian cells are non human embryonic stem cells or adult stem cells including human.

36. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 wherein said mammalian cells are endodermal, ectodermal and mesodermal or their adult progenitor and stem cells.

37. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 characterized for further comprising at least one biological molecule selected from the group consisting of proteins, glycoproteins, lipoproteins, carbohydrates, lipids, glycolipids, peptides, antibodies,

cytokines, hormones and enzymes.

38. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 further characterized for being depleted for at least one biological molecule selected from the group consisting of: proteins, glycoproteins, lipoproteins, carbohydrates, lipids, glycolipids, peptides, antibodies, cytokines, hormones and enzymes.

39. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 wherein said untransformed hepatocytes are genetically modified in order to express at least one specific biological factor selected from the group of: proteins, glycoproteins, lipoproteins, carbohydrates, lipids, glycolipids, peptide, antibodies, cytokines, hormones and enzymes.

40. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 31 in form of a solid, a lyophilized, a powder, a gel, a film, or a freeze-dried compound.

41. (Previously Presented) Culture medium according to claim 34 wherein the maintenance, the proliferation and the differentiation of mammalian cells is performed in order to further condition the MMH-conditioned medium.

42. (Previously Presented) Process for production of a culture medium comprising the steps of incubating immortalized untransformed hepatocytes that are differentiated, polarized epithelial cells in a culture medium for at least 2 hours and separating said hepatocytes before the use for maintenance, proliferation and differentiation of adult mammalian cells.

43. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 42 wherein the separation step is performed by filtration or by centrifugation.

44. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 42 wherein said culture medium is RPMI, Ham's F12, Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM), RPMI 1640,

Iscove's, McCoy's.

45. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 42 wherein the cells grow in culture either in suspension or in adherence to an extracellular matrix, as monolayers or three-dimensionally.

46. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 45 wherein the matrix is solid, such as plastic, or semisolid like a gels, such as collagen, gelatin or agar.

47. (Withdrawn) Mammalian cells treated with the conditioned medium according to claim 31 to be used in the medical field.

48. (Withdrawn) Mammalian cells according to claim 31 to be used for cellular transplantation protocols.

49. (Withdrawn) Mammalian cells according to claim 31 to be subjected to genetic engineering.

50. (Withdrawn) Mammalian cells according to claim 31 to be used for the production of biological molecules.

51. (Withdrawn) Pharmaceutical composition comprising the mammalian cells according to claim 47 to be used in the medical field.

52. (Withdrawn) Pharmaceutical composition comprising the mammalian cells according to claim 47 to be used in cellular therapy protocols

53. (Previously Presented) Method for growing, expand, maintain and /or differentiate isolated adult mammalian cells *in vitro* said method comprising the step of placing in contact said cells with the culture medium according to claim 31.

54. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 53 wherein said isolated

cells are cord-blood stem cells.

55. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 53 wherein said isolated cells are non human embrional stem cells or adult stem cells.

56. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 53 wherein said cells are endodermal, ectodermal and mesodermal and their adult progenitor and stem cells.

57. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 53 wherein said cells are NK cells.

58. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 53 wherein said cells are dendritic cells.

59. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 53 wherein said cells are endothelial cells.

60. (Previously Presented) Kit for maintenance, proliferation and differentiation of adult mammalian cells, said kit comprising the culture medium according to claim 31 together with laboratory means